

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

Please replace the claims with the claims provided in the listing below wherein status, amendments, additions and cancellations are indicated.

1. (Currently Amended) A rechargeable battery, comprising: a battery housing containing:

a plurality of cells;

each cell of said plurality of cells including elements for electromotive force ~~of a cell~~ and being formed in a rectangular shape having short sides with a narrow width and long sides with a wide width;[[, and]]

each cell of said plurality of cells including ribs on said long sides;

said a plurality of cells are and being linked together adjacent to one another ~~between~~ at the short sides of their battery housings to form a battery pack ~~with a~~ required electrical capacity;

a first binding plate adjacent one of the long sides of the plurality of cells, having an outer side parallel with one of the short sides of the plurality of cells;

a second binding plate adjacent another one of the long sides of the plurality of cells, having an outer side parallel with one of the short sides of the plurality of cells;

at least one binding band overlapping the outer side of the first binding plate and the outer side of the second binding plate; and

said first binding plate and said second binding plate forming coolant passages between the first binding plate and the second binding plate and the plurality of ribs so that coolant passes through the coolant passages.

BY 2. (Currently Amended) A rechargeable battery, comprising: ~~wherein a battery housing containing~~

a plurality of cells;

each cell of said plurality of cells including elements for electromotive force ~~of a cell is~~ and being formed in a rectangular shape having short sides with a narrow width and long sides with a wide width; [[, a]]

each cell of said plurality of cells including ribs on said long sides;

said plurality of cells are being linked together adjacent to one another ~~between~~ at the short sides of their battery housings to form a plurality of rows of battery modules, these battery modules ~~are being~~ arranged in parallel ~~in a~~ where the plurality of rows of battery modules are adjacent to one another between the long sides of the battery ~~housings~~ cells, and the plurality of rows of battery modules ~~are being~~ linked together to form a battery pack ~~with a required electrical capacity;~~

a first binding plate adjacent one of the long sides of a first row of said plurality of cells, having an outer side parallel with one of the short sides of the first row of said plurality of cells;

a second binding plate adjacent another one of the long sides of a second row of said plurality of cells, having an outer side parallel with one of the short sides of the second row of said plurality of cells;

at least one binding band overlapping the outer side of the first binding plate and the outer side of the second binding plate; and

said first binding plate and said second binding plate forming coolant passages between the first binding plate and the second binding plate and the plurality of ribs so that coolant passes through the coolant passages.

3. (Currently Amended) The rechargeable battery according to Claim 2, wherein a heat transfer plate with ~~good~~ thermal conductivity is provided between the battery modules disposed in parallel.

4. (Currently Amended) The rechargeable battery according to Claim 2, wherein a heat transfer plate with ~~good~~ thermal conductivity is provided between the battery modules disposed in parallel, and end heat transfer plates exposed to the outside from the plurality of integrated cells are linked to the ends of this heat transfer plate in the direction in which the battery modules are linked.

5. (Previously Presented) The rechargeable battery according to Claim 3 or 4, wherein a coolant is made to flow through the heat transfer plate and/or the end heat transfer plates.

BY 6. (Currently Amended) The rechargeable battery according to Claim 1 or 2, wherein ~~a~~ the plurality of cells are linked together with the elements for electromotive force of each cell provided inside a battery case in which the individual battery housings are integrally formed adjacent to one another between the short sides thereof.

7. (Cancelled).

8. (Previously Presented) The rechargeable battery according to Claim 1 or 2, wherein the plurality of cells are integrally linked with the linking position and linking direction varied as desired.

Claims 9-10 (Cancelled).

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